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USC to appear at NCAA hearing

President to miss Opening Day to face allegations committee

Isabelle Khurshudyan
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It's no secret that USC President Harris Pastides is a baseball fan. This past Halloween Pastides dressed up as a catcher, with a helmet and full uniform, to greet people outside of his home on the Horeshoe. In Pastides' office is a case of baseballs that he asks distinguished visitors to sign when they come to campus. When ESPN founder Bill Rasmussen came to campus on Feb. 1, the two talked about baseball.

Naturally, one of the biggest days of the year

for any baseball fan is Opening Day, but it will be one that Pastides will have to miss as he and 10 other representatives of the South Carolina's athletics program will appear Friday before the NCAA Committee on Infractions for the school's NCAA violations.

"Sometimes crap happens, you just have to deal with it," USC football coach Steve Spurrier said. "Find out who was at fault or if anybody was at fault, that's what we're trying to search for."

In a response to the NCAA's notice of allegations, South Carolina forfeited six football scholarships over the course of three years, imposed a three year probatory period and a fine of \$18,500, as well as other punitive

NCAA ● A3



Richard Pearce / THE DAILY GAMECOCK



Courtesy of YouTube

'How to look like Ryan Gosling'

Dinobrite cofounder's comedy video goes viral

Colin Campbell
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Joey Thompson, a USC alumnus and cofounder of the locally renowned comedy group Dinobrite, had been

having a somewhat difficult time in the dating scene. Then he made his latest video and everything changed. It started off as a side project, but when Thompson posted his "How to Look Like Ryan Gosling" video on YouTube, it took off like none of

THOMPSON ● A3

Tracy violations dismissed

Candidate ready to start campaigning again

Cassie Cope
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The SG constitutional council dismissed the 4.5 point violation against Kenny Tracy's campaign after about an hour of deliberation Thursday night. A candidate can only be penalized

5 points before he or she is out of the race. The violation that the elections committee had initially pinned against Tracy had alleged that his campaign manager, Rohail Kazi approached two students and offered them a position on Tracy's cabinet in exchange for campaign support. One of the students who brought up the violations was Mitchell

VIOLATIONS ● A3



Parker Jennette / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The constitutional council dismissed the 4.5 violation against Tracy Thursday evening.

'Sarge Fry-E' sandwich unveiled at Grand Market Place

Limited edition meal offered until Feb. 29

Ashley Hinkel
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Carolina Dining presented the "Sarge Fry-E" sandwich Thursday afternoon, the eve of the baseball team's opening day, at the Ball Park grill on the first floor of the Russell House.

During the 2011 College World Series, Carolina Dining announced a creative and delicious contest for students to develop a sandwich that would honor the baseball team's recent success and get students excited for the upcoming 2012 season. Contest winner Jeffrey Bickley, a second-year electrical engineering student, answered their call.

Bickley chose to give the sandwich the name "Sarge Fry-E" to commemorate the old baseball stadium and athletic department legend, Weldon B. "Sarge" Frye.

"I saw the contest on Facebook and decided I could come up with just as good a sandwich as anybody," Bickley said.

After deciding upon the five finalists, it was up to Carolina Dining's Facebook

friends to poll for their favorite recipe. Bickley's recipe of roasted pork, swiss cheese, caramelized onions, red peppers, shredded carrots, cilantro, mayonnaise and the most important ingredient, french fries (hence the name Fry-E), prevailed among other submitted recipes. Bickley was presented with a certificate and free samples of the Sarge Fry-E sandwich were passed out to students during lunch Thursday.

Students seemed to love the sandwich, as Cocky and Chef Al couldn't keep their trays full.

Although Bickley is a huge baseball fan, he doesn't admit to being a cook. However, he does watch the TV show "Man Versus Food" and admits it could have been where he drew some inspiration for the sandwich.

With baseball season kicking off this weekend, Carolina Dining, Cocky and Bickley hope the unveiling will draw students' attention and simulate excitement about the upcoming season.

If you didn't get to taste Bickley's delicious creation, don't worry. The Sarge Fry-E sandwich is available until Feb. 29 at the Russell House Ballpark Grill.

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Nicole DeBartolo / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The sandwich recipe includes roasted pork, swiss cheese, caramelized onions, red peppers, shredded carrots, cilantro, mayonnaise and french fries.

CAMPUS PROGRAMS PROMOTE HEALTH



Parker Jennette / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Intuitive eating impacts lifestyles

Moderation, sense of smell affect food habits

Priyanka Juneja
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Campus Wellness hosted a three-week series on intuitive eating and weight management, focusing the final session on the psychology behind eating on Wednesday.

“Most students do have an awareness of what unhealthy eating is. It’s just a matter of environmental factors and not paying attention to hunger and satiety cues that causes overeating,” Deborah Zippel, a campus dietitian, said.

The Wellness Center features multiple series in order to help students with stress, weight loss and a healthy lifestyle.

“Students just weren’t having any success with weight loss, so we decided to have sessions on intuitive eating,” Zippel said.

Amber McKenzie, a computer science doctorate student, explained how intuitive eating has affected her.

“I got tired of using a diet and gaining weight back,” McKenzie said. “I learned that diets tend not to work. Unlike diets, intuitive eating isn’t short term. It’s a lifestyle change. You have to be committed to taking care of yourself and feeling good about yourself. It’s not an easy thing to do.”

McKenzie has been working on intuitive eating for a year, and encourages anyone wishing to make a change to use it.

“If you’re going to try intuitive eating you’re not going to get the immediate results like dieting, but it’s worth it,”

McKenzie said. “If you do it, you have to be committed and have support. I highly recommend it. Better than any diet out there.”

The session highlighted the three important factors that enhance taste: scent, visual appeal and sound. Zippel demonstrated the importance of scent by giving each person a Wheat Thin that smelled like mint. Immediately, people in the class made faces and unanimously agreed that the Wheat Thin was unappetizing, even though the actual taste of the wheat thin had not been altered.

“Scent highly impacts your enjoyment of food,” Zippel said. “That’s why people with a cold are less likely to enjoy their food.”

Zippel also stressed the importance of portion control and knowing when you’re full. She asked students to pour cereal into a bowl and compared the amount to a premeasured serving size.

“I always try and use a smaller bowl when I’m eating so I don’t overeat,” Jalavender Clowney, a fourth-year biology student, said.

Zippel also addressed the importance of avoiding distractions while eating.

“Try just to eat and focus on your food,” Zippel said. “People tend to overeat if they’re distracted.”

Students were able to learn what being healthy really means.

“It helped me realize that it’s OK to be who I am. Being healthy plays a key role in my happiness,” Clowney said. “Being healthy doesn’t mean that you have to be a certain size or not be able to eat what you enjoy. It’s a matter of moderation. The session has given me tools that will benefit me the rest of my life.”



Nicole DeBartolo / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Zippel discussed portion control and sense of smell as important aspects of eating in her intuitive eating class on Thursday.

Resolutions fail after Spring Break

Start of semester prime time for student fitness

Katie West
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Students who made New Year’s resolutions may have already taken a guilty trip to Marble Slab or gradually stopped going to Strom. And those who are trying to maintain their fitness goals might not do so after spring break, when gym attendance typically decreases.

“In our group exercise classes, the attendance usually drops by at least 25 percent after spring break,” Charles Anderson, fitness director at Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center, said.

However, Anderson added that some attendance for prime-time classes stay consistent throughout the semester.

About three-fourths of Americans make resolutions at the beginning of January, but by the time February rolls around less than half are still going strong, according to a survey conducted by the University of Scranton.

Spring break is from March 4 to March 9 this year. According to Anderson, gym attendance declines after spring break because, in many cases, “looking good for spring break was the goal.” Students also become busy with exams and end-of-the-semester activities when

they return to campus, he added.

Spikes in overall attendance and class sizes indicate that students view both the new calendar year in January and the new academic year in August as opportune times to set new fitness goals, according to Anderson.

“The two busiest times of the year are at the start of both semesters,” said Anderson. “The first four weeks of the fall semester, and from the first week of second semester until spring break.”

Anderson and others hope that students can turn their New Year’s resolutions into lasting, healthy lifestyles.

“Even if the motivation at first is just for spring break, maybe they will get hooked and continue year-round,” said Anderson. “Students need to take a long-term view of fitness. The habits that they develop now will have a major impact on their health many years down the road.”

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First Lady teaches cooking class

Moore-Pastides suggests local food diet

Julianne Lewis
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USC First Lady Patricia Moore-Pastides and cardiologist Dr. Stanley Juk hosted a Mediterranean cooking class last night through Columbia’s Cooking.

Columbia’s Cooking is part of the Cancer Prevention & Control Program and teaches hands-on healthy cooking classes.

Moore-Pastides wrote her first cookbook, Greek Revival, in 2010. She taught the class how to make recipes from her book, such as lentil soup, sautéed kale and an assorted greens dish.

The dishes used all fresh ingredients, many of which were grown in the Pastides’s garden.

“The closer to the garden you can eat, we’re finding out over time, the better,” said Moore-Pastides.

A new garden will

open today and other vegetables are planted around campus, mainly in the area surrounding the Russell House patio.

Columbia’s Cooking dietician Katherine Shavo emphasized the importance of eating less but higher quality red meat. The farmer’s market and Earth Fare carry grass-fed meats, which contain less fat and more Omega-3.

“We need Omega-3 for our emotional health. We live on campus with 30,000 young people and many of them are seeking help for anxiety and depression. I wonder sometimes if their bodies are deprived of Omega-3,” Moore-Pastides said.

Dr. Juk and Moore-Pastides shared similar views on alcohol. A small glass of red wine (for those of legal age) on most days was a positive thing, but more alcohol than that and the risks outweigh the benefits.

“I hate the drinking more than anything. The student health

center told me that it’s not unusual for a student to have 10 drinks a night, and you know, that could kill you,” Moore-Pastides said. “I wish we could just teach students to drink responsibly.”

Moore-Pastides would also love to get rid of the fast food on campus, but she knows the students want it.

“I think a lot of times people just take what they’re used to having,” she said.

Dr. Juk strongly discouraged the use of tobacco products and advocated an active lifestyle. He played football for USC and was drafted to the Miami Dolphins in 1967, but chose to attend Duke University for medical school instead. He currently works at Columbia Cardiology.

“As you get older, no one is going to tell you to go exercise,” Dr. Juk said. “If you can develop that lifestyle now, it will be something you can follow through life.”

Carolina Beautiful
“Celebrate Your Body” Week
Events Feb. 20-24

monday, feb. 20
Beautiful Lengths
if you’ve got 8” of hair to spare and would like to donate it towards a wig for a cancer patient, this is your event
email galaradic@email.sc.edu for an appointment
6 pm russell house ballroom

the Carolina Beautiful main event
Whitney Thompson
America’s Next Top Model Winner
tuesday, feb. 21
a free, frank & inspirational discussion about body image, being a “plus” sized model in a size 0 industry, and loving who you are
8 pm russell house ballroom

wednesday, feb. 22
Bigger, Stronger, Faster
FREE movie followed by a discussion with Dr. Eric Williams, fitness guru and campus psychiatrist, about the quest for physical perfection
7:30 pm russell house ballroom c

thursday, feb. 23
Eating Disorders Discussion
real students who struggle speak out
4 pm russell house room 315

Campus Wellness
STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Carolina Beautiful is an annual campus-wide initiative to promote positive body image and redefine beauty.
learn more at www.sa.sc.edu/shs/cw/cb

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THOMPSON ● Continued from A1

his other videos had before — to the tune of more than 30,000 hits in three days.

“It was like a movie,” Thompson said. “It was like a Ryan Gosling movie where I was the main character.”

The video starts with Thompson recounting stories of being told he looks like “The Notebook” actor, first when he was in high school and more recently at a gas station this summer. He then takes viewers through the steps to looking like Ryan Gosling — getting a new wardrobe, perfecting the smile, squaring your jaw and well, not saying a lot.

Thompson posted his video to the Web Monday night. By Thursday, it had been picked up by a Gosling fan site called RyansArmy, and subsequently, the Huffington Post, MSNBC and the International Business News, among dozens of other online blogs. Then American Idol host Ryan Seacrest and singer Hayley Williams of the band Paramore posted it, and late Thursday night it was featured on Perez TV.

“I’m a little overwhelmed,” Thompson said. “My Twitter went from like 70 followers to more than 300. I get an email about every 3 minutes and a new Twitter follower every 30 seconds.”

He said he’d been contacted by the Today show asking permission rights to feature the video, and he’s hoping he’ll be asked to make an appearance on the show.

But Thompson’s sights are set higher: He, and thousands of his and Gosling’s fans, are campaigning to get Thompson on the Ellen DeGeneres show alongside the real Ryan Gosling.

He credited his friend, former Garnet & Black editor-in-chief Malia Griggs whom he met through Student

Media, for helping him promote the video. They’re encouraging people to tweet with the hashtag #JoeyOnEllen at the TV show’s account, @TheEllenShow.

“Ryan Gosling has this uniquely insane fan base,” Griggs said. “I knew, especially right around Valentine’s Day, people would love it.”

Griggs said she hopes the success continues for Thompson.

“It’s been insane. It’s a great thing for Joey,” Griggs said. “He’s really talented, really creative. It’s been a long time coming.”

How would he react though, given the chance to talk to Gosling on national TV?

“I’d mean-mug him. I would straight up stare him down,” Thompson said. “I would have a ‘sexy-off,’ is what I’m telling you what I’d do.”

In all seriousness, Thompson said he’d like to spend a day with Gosling.

“I’d like to hang out with him for a day,” Thompson said. “Ideally I’d love to get him to make a ‘How to Look Like Joey Thompson.’ I’d make him do stand up or something.”

He said he’s enjoyed the chance to promote himself and his DinoBrite brand, and hopes it ends up bringing the spotlight back to the duo.

“With everything I do, I hope it comes back to Dinobrite in a positive way,” Thompson said. “The goal of my life is to produce a movie or TV show with (Dinobrite cofounder) Fabio (Frey).”

Griggs is confident Thompson has big things ahead of him.

“Joey definitely has a big personality. He’s very charismatic,” Griggs said. “Hopefully this builds momentum and it will be a good thing for his future.”

Comments on this story?
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VIOLATIONS ● Cont. from A1

Hammonds, a second-year student senate member who testified at Thursday night’s hearing.

Hammonds said Kazi indirectly offered him a position by asking how he felt about being Freshman Council adviser. Hammonds said he redirected the conversation.

Kazi also testified.

“Because of my experience, because of my roles, several members come to me in Student Government,” Kazi said. He added he’s had several Freshman Council members had asked him what their options are in SG.

Trenton Smith, a

Freshman Council member, also filed violations against Tracy’s campaign.

Smith said CJ Lake, a senior adviser for Tracy’s campaign, had asked what his plans were for SG at Carolina After Dark. After responding he was interested in student senate, Lake informed him that there were options in executive cabinet as well.

In addition to dropping Tracy’s violations, the constitutional council ruled that due to procedural mismanagement when the elections committee did not allow a rebuttal of the Tracy campaign to the testimony

of Hammonds, the hearing itself was a violations of elections code. The council also ruled that the elections commission does have the right to alter a violation after it has been filed.

“I was extremely confident in my campaign team; I had all the faith in the world in them,” Tracy said. “Obviously, I’m very happy with how it worked. I’m glad it’s an even playing field and justice is coming to light. I’m just ready to get back to campaigning, to be honest.”

Comments on this story?
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NCAA ● Continued from A1

measures.

“I’m expecting that we will present a strong case,” Pastides said. “The case of a university always wanting to do the right thing, always wanting to do better. We have prepared for it and will continue to prepare for it. I’m confident for a fair hearing and deliberation, and I’m hopeful for a fair and just and positive outcome.”

Joining Pastides will be Athletics Director Eric Hyman, Spurrier, assistant football coach G.A. Mangus, track coach Curtis Frye, assistant men’s basketball coach Michael Boynton Jr. as well as five other officials from the athletics department including newly-named Compliance Director Chris Rogers, who was hired from Ohio State. At Ohio State, Rogers had experience with the NCAA

Committee on Infractions, as Ohio State had violations surrounding improper benefits.

Though Hyman would not speak directly on the upcoming hearing, he did speak to the recent hiring of Rogers.

“Chris became highly recommended,” Hyman said. “We got rave reviews about him. And it’s an advantage that he’s seen inside how it works.”

The trip to Los Angeles will be a bittersweet one for Pastides: Though he’s not looking forward to going before the NCAA and missing baseball’s Opening Day, it will be a chance to visit his daughter, who’s expecting his first grandchild, in Santa Monica, Calif.

Comments on this story?
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State program works toward rehabilitating inmates

Operation Get Smart teaches responsibility

Rachel Dean
NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Current and former inmates shared their personal stories and interpretations of the criminal justice system Thursday at the Capstone dormitory as part of the Operation Get Smart program.

The 11 inmates debated the meaning of words such as corrections, justice and choice.

OGS, implemented in 1976, is sponsored by the South Carolina Department of Corrections. The program’s main focus is to inform the public on criminal life in order to prevent others from making bad decisions, especially youth. The inmates who are chosen must pass a rigorous screening process, as well as training and orientation. Ten

inmates are chosen by the Manager for Public Awareness Programs to travel the state and share their stories. Everyone involved in the program hopes that these personal stories will save others from becoming felons.

One former inmate discussed his issues with the corrections system.

“They call it the South Carolina Department of Corrections. But here’s the problem: Do they really correct us when we’re in prison? To me, it just seems like they lock us up and throw away the key. We have to fend for ourselves — fight, steal, sometimes we kill each other just to survive in prison,” he said.

Another former inmate shared his personal story and his thoughts on justice.

“They sentenced me to the Department of Corrections for 12 years with assault and battery and intent to kill a police officer. Now is that justice? Yeah, because I committed a crime,” he said. “One thing I’ve learned is that true justice is taking responsibility for your own actions.”

The inmate continued his story.

“I did not realize how many people I would affect when I shot into that car. There was a 20-year-old in the back seat that just left his

pregnant girlfriend and was going home to his mom, his dad, his little sister. He never made it because I shot him twice in the back and took his life. Right now, there is a little girl that would never know the love and compassion that her father could have for her because of the choice that I made. There is a sister out there without a big brother, a mom that would never be able to share Mother’s Day with her son and a dad that cannot take his son fishing or just to share words with him because

of my choice. I made that choice. Everything that I get, I get my just dessert,” he said.


OGS, which was originally funded by the State Legislature until the mid-1980s, now relies solely on the Department of Corrections for financial backing. To fully operate the program, it costs \$90,000, according to the Department of Correction’s website. When considering the housing costs of an adult inmate for one year at \$15,000 and the housing costs of a juvenile

inmate at \$28,000, the department believes that the program can quickly be paid for through preventative measures.


If the program can prevent six adults or three juveniles from being incarcerated, the program is essentially paid for.

A current inmate believed in taking responsibility for his crime. He said that it was his choice; there is nobody else to blame.

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USC baseball inspires pride in community

Opening weekend is finally here. Considering all that USC’s baseball team has achieved these past two years, the next few days should mark one of the proudest times to be a Gamecock. The words “three-peat” are a short yet powerful expression of the enthusiasm and encouragement the team’s back-to-back championship wins have given our community. But the trophies aren’t everything. When USC

“The team’s success is becoming about so much more than its wins on the diamond.”

needed help lobbying South Carolina for more public funds, it brought the baseball team to the Statehouse steps; when USC President Harris Pastides wanted a special adviser for community outreach, he turned to coach Ray Tanner. The team’s success is becoming about so much more than its wins on the diamond. The real importance rests in the pride that it continues to inspire in fans — both in games and out.

The context for this opening weekend could not be more perfect. Today USC Athletics will face its final hearing concerning the NCAA violations brought against the school — mostly involving football players. Of course, being a part of the SEC makes USC football country, and the impact of football on both Columbia and the state — namely, through the immense revenue it generates — is an undeniably strong asset. However, this weekend should serve as a strong reminder of all that USC baseball has accomplished, despite not quite living up to the circus that is Gamecock football. It is for this success, clear and shining in front of the mishaps, mistakes and deals that often accompany football, that USC baseball deserves our continued support.

Baseball is finally back at Carolina, and after the struggles of football and basketball, Gamecocks should breathe a sigh of relief and welcome their champions back with open arms and full stadiums.



World community passes on ACTA

Bulgaria stands up to regulatory pact

I’ll readily admit I don’t know much about Bulgaria. On a day-to-day basis I don’t think about it much unless someone is referencing fine chocolates or asking me about incredibly complicated city names; but today I think of Bulgaria with a smile, and my heart fills with pride knowing that it was the 16th country to refuse to support Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement.



Emilie Dawson
First-year public relations student

The ACTA has been in action since 2008, receiving signatures from Australia, Canada, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and the United States. Twenty-two more European countries have signed, but the bill requires ratification by all nations concerned, as well as approval of the European Union. This bill will need a lot more signatures and acceptance to go into effect, and if countries like Bulgaria keep passing on it, it won’t happen in Europe.

The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) is the main advocate for the bill, and when pandering for signatures in Mexico, the organization stated the bill is a way to “bring in a censoring firewall to block piracy, and you can use it to shut off sites that embarrass your government, like WikiLeaks,” which, incidentally, first leaked information about ACTA to the public in 2008.

It seems those in the film industry have had just about enough of illegal

downloads and copyright infringement on their hard work. So while the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and the Protect IP Act (PIPA) were put to a halt after the major blackouts online, ACTA pushes onward internationally.

Bulgarian officials made the decision to halt the already-signed agreement after street protests were held in the capital, Sofia, as well as in 16 other cities.

Germany and Poland previously backed the bill as well, until internal protests changed their minds. Five other states — Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, the Netherlands and Slovakia — rejected signing the bill after thousands of protestors marched on European capitals against ACTA.

After refusing the bill, Bulgarian Minister of Economy, Energy and Tourism Traicho Traikov told reporters that “authors’ copyright should not be placed above human rights,” and I couldn’t agree more.

The Internet is a new medium in this digital age, and it’s been an unregulated playground with equal parts information and entertainment. This bill seems to prove once again that although we live in a country that supports freedom of speech, press and religion, the government only works to support those rights for the people with the most money and political advocacy. The Internet is a commodity I’ll be the first one to admit I’ve taken for granted, but it should always live up to its original purpose of connecting and educating anyone who can access it.

While the bill is already signed by U.S. officials, these recent protests in Europe show there’s still a way to change our government’s mind about ACTA.

Church exemptions lead to revenue losses

Special status for religious groups creates unfair tax system

In Italy on Wednesday, Prime Minister Mario Monti announced his plan to amend Italian law to allow taxation of the Italian Church. Like the United States, Italy has been facing a recession for some time now and has been examining all the options to make up for the shortfall. An investigatory committee found a gain of 100 million (\$130 million) by adding only a property tax on all church commercial property. A similar move in the U.S. could place much-needed funds back into our government budget.

Right now, churches, clergymen and their relatives benefit immensely from laws that place them outside the reach of normal nonprofit organizations in a variety of ways. The most forward and simple inequality that should be taken into consideration is to remove or cap the parsonage allowance. Today, every cent that an ordained clergy member receives from the Church for his or her home is tax-exempt, including insurance,

property tax, utilities, mortgage and even the interest on the mortgage. The U.S. military provides a tax-free housing allowance up to a certain point, beyond which taxation is fair game.

This exemption does not exist for workers of standard nonprofit organizations, who must pay normal federal taxes on these properties. These exemptions often exceed millions of dollars; Ed Young Jr., the CEO of Fellowship Church in Grapevine, Texas, resides in a 10,000 square foot home valued at \$1.5 million and oversees a \$53 million dollar annual tax-free budget.

Pastors, while paying no income tax, may also opt out of Social Security and Medicare taxation as well. A 2010 study found that the average megachurch pastor’s salary was \$147,000, going as high as \$400,000 — all tax-free. Taxing religious employees, who work just like any other American, would provide a significant increase in the internal revenue.



Patrick Mitchell
Electrical engineering graduate student

IT’S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock’s Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community.

All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on dailygamecock.com.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via email to gamecockeditor@sc.edu. Letters must be 200 to 300 words in length

and include the author’s name, year in school and area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author’s name and position.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

All submissions become the property of The Daily Gamecock and must conform to the legal standards of USC Student Media.

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CORRECTIONS

If you find an error in today’s edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know about it. Email sagckview@mailbox.sc.edu and we will print the correction in our next issue.



SURVIVAL GUIDE: BONNAROO BASICS

The annual Bonnaroo music festival’s lineup, announced Tuesday, includes Pennsylvania rapper Mac Miller (above).

Tennessee’s famed music festival offers fans eclectic experience

Mary Cathryn Armstrong
MCATHRYN@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Every year in June, the city of Manchester, Tennessee is invaded. What started out as a pipe dream in the minds of music lovers who yearned for the chance to see all their favorite artists in one place for a price that didn’t bruise their bank accounts has now flourished into a decade-long celebration of life, music and love of the arts — also known as Bonnaroo. Thousands of fans spend months marking X’s on their calendars — and that’s just waiting for the lineup to be announced. This year’s set list dropped on Valentine’s day, and as always, the mass event will host an eclectic group of rappers, rockers and artists. But Bonnaroo should not be entered into lightly, so before you pack up the car (first-timers), make sure you know what you’re getting into.

Be Prepared Not to Shower (or smell nice)

If you’re planning to shack up at a ritzy hotel during your time at Bonnaroo, chances are you’re going to miss out on the full experience. And you might even get laughed at by some of the festival veterans. Part of that experience is, of course, camping out with thousands of your closest friends. Now imagine trying to snag a shower with that many neighbors swarming around you. Exactly. And with so many activities and performances going on around the clock, bathing will soon be the last thing on your mind. Who cares about a shower when there’s a Big Ass Water Slide? But if you’re the type who can’t go a day without lathering up, never fear. The campgrounds offer showers for a small fee, or go big with the VIP package which includes deluxe showers. Whatever that means.

There is No Excuse to Be Sitting Still

There is absolutely no way you can see every

BONNAROO ● A6



Austin Price
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

The Vista’s Cupcake bakes individual, novelty treats

When it comes to sweets, one Columbia bakery leaves out all the guesswork. Cupcake keeps it simple, in both its name and menu: cupcakes. The location in the Vista is the newest of three Cupcakes in South Carolina, the others being in Mount Pleasant and downtown Charleston. And since Columbia’s Cupcake opened, the shop has taken over as a go-to for every sweet tooth in the city. It’s the perfect place for a post-work pick-me-up, date night or birthday surprise.

Alexa Stallings, who has worked at Cupcake since May, says the sweet shop’s success is partly due to the idea of a bakery that specializes in cupcakes — something new to South Carolina. “I think it’s the novelty of it,” Stallings said. “It’s individual size, so you can come here for dessert instead of buying a whole cake.” Stallings said the idea was conceived when owner Kristin Cobb went to a cupcake bakery in New York City. Cobb came back to Charleston and in 2006, the first Cupcake opened its doors downtown in the posh waterfront town. Some of the recipes were handed-down family recipes, while others Cobb tweaked until something new and delicious was created. The Vista favorite bakes nine flavors of cupcakes fresh each day, with five flavors being consistent day-to-day and the other four a sorted daily dose of Cupcake’s more than 45 flavors. Stallings said red velvet is definitely the most popular flavor, and is one of the five flavors



Jeremy Aaron / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Columbia’s single-treat bakery serves up nine flavors of fresh cupcakes daily.

available every day, along with other basic flavors like chocolate and vanilla. “We have four [flavors] that change with the season of the year and also with the day of the week,” Stallings said. These specialty flavors range from simple flavors — such as almond and coconut — to more complex flavors, including the double chocolate banana and strawberry cheesecake flavors. But these cupcakes are much different than the 12-to-a-pack Publix variety. Cupcake has taken the tasted and true treat and elevated it to a new level entirely, turning the simple dessert into a work of art — with sprinkles on top, of course. The quality of these cupcakes is consistent, as the cupcakes are baked fresh daily. And it’s safe to say every cupcake lover in Columbia has one question at the end of the day: What happens to leftover cupcakes? Cupcake has set up a service in which it donates these day-old cupcakes to local children’s homes, charities and

other nonprofit organizations, including the Ronald McDonald House and Trident United Way. Organizations can request a donation by going to Cupcake’s website, www.freshcupcake.com. The cupcakes are available in more than just the traditional size and serving. The bakery sells cupcakes and minicupcakes by the dozen. The minicupcakes are available in vanilla, chocolate and red velvet. Cupcake also sells megacupcakes, which are half a foot wide and feed six to eight people, and hosts and caters parties, weddings and other events. With a fresh-baked cupcakes and daily assorted flavors, Cupcake is a great place to go for some sweet bites. Cupcake is located in the Vista at 1213 Lincoln St. The store is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; and 12 p.m. to 5 Sunday.

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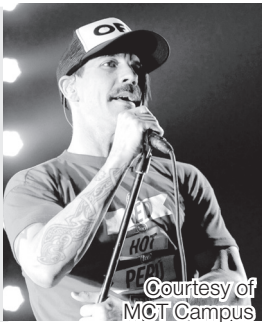
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GAME

Everything you need to know about this week in arts and entertainment

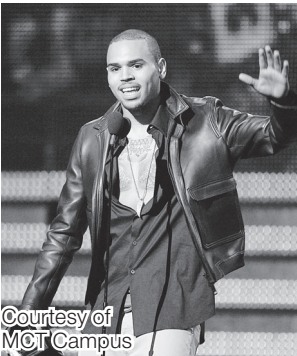
Tyler Simpson
TSIMPSON@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Bonnaroo lineup revealed
This year’s Bonnaroo will feature modern-day big names like Red Hot Chili Peppers, Radiohead, Bon Iver and ... the Beach Boys. Really?!



Emma Watson to play Belle
First, they take our favorite superhero, Superman, and now one of our Disney princesses. The British are coming!

Angelina Jolie to play Maleficent
Speaking of classic Disney, this may be the very thing to get men interested in Disney fairy tales.



Chris Brown responds to haters on Twitter
I just want to say that he’s really not helping his case when he tells people to “[bleep] off.”

Michael Bay to direct Transformers 4
Well, I better start storing up on bottles of Advil.



“The Phantom Menace” returned in 3-D
Star Wars fans got to see that most-hated prequel with a third dimension ... only to hate it even more.

Whitney Houston dies at 48
Nothing funny here. The world has lost one of its greatest musical talents. May she rest in peace.



Lacking action film shies away to ‘Safe House’

Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds bring star power to generic plot

Tyler Simpson
TSIMPSON@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

“Safe House”
NOW IN THEATERS



Director: Daniel Espinosa
Starring: Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds, Brendan Gleeson
Rating: R for some strong violence and some language

Recently, it seems like Denzel Washington has moved toward the ways of actors like Liam Neeson: the acclaimed, Academy Award-winning actor who has become a must-see action thriller star.

Through his collaborations with director Tony Scott, he has definitely found a comfort zone with the cool, badass veteran persona in movies like “Man on Fire” (2004) and “Unstoppable” (2010).

“Safe House” contains standard B-movie action thriller fair with a top notch cast and a screenplay that doesn’t present anything new or exciting. There is just one word that can best describe this film: generic — in more ways than one.

First of all, the plot is basically your typical CIA agent-gone-rogue story where you know the rogue agent has a reasonable excuse for going rogue. That agent in this movie is Tobin Frost (Washington), the type of character you know is the real deal when one of the lead characters says, “Oh my God, that’s Tobin Frost.” Wanted by the CIA, Tobin surprisingly walks into CIA headquarters and is taken to a safe house for interrogation about some shady dealings with MI6.

However, some unknown assailants raid the safe house, and Frost finds himself on the run with the safe



Courtesy of MCT Campus

Ryan Reynolds (left) and Denzel Washington (right) star as FBI agents in the unoriginal and predictable action thriller “Safe House.”

house’s caretaker, Matt Weston (Ryan Reynolds), a rookie agent desperate to prove himself and work his way up. Weston becomes a target for both Frost and the people pursuing him, but Weston is determined to take Frost safely back to his superiors, so he sticks with him regardless.

The story goes further into generic territory when Weston learns that Frost harbors information involving a traitor within the CIA. As soon as we hear this, the plot becomes predictable. It becomes completely obvious that the mole Frost has incriminating evidence against is one of the three officials among the CIA brass (Vera Farmiga, Brendan Gleeson and Sam Shepard).

I want to continue by saying what everybody else has been saying about this film: the way this movie plays out, you’d think that it was another Tony Scott film. After all, it does feature the usual Tony Scott aspects, like the handheld camera style, the action

scenes containing an uneven pace and, of course, Denzel Washington. The only things that are missing are Scott’s signature flair and the buddy tag team found in “Unstoppable.”

The action sequences are also standard with a fair amount of car chases, and Washington and Reynolds spend a lot of time shooting people and getting shot at. These action scenes would be more enjoyable if they weren’t shot with a handheld camera. I’ve said it before and I will say it again: It is really difficult to tell what is happening in a scene when the camera constantly moves back and forth, up and down, just because it can.

The action’s also pretty uneven. Before the audience can actually become invested in the thrills from the action scenes, the momentum falters harshly when the movie cuts to scenes with the CIA higher-ups talking down to their underlings with computer screens providing exposition.

The only great aspect, and the lone

reason people would see this film, is Denzel Washington himself. He brings almost as much zest as he did to his Oscar-winning role in “Training Day” (2001).

The same, however, cannot be said about Ryan Reynolds, who has shown time and time again that he cannot carry an action film (we all know that became a fact after “Green Lantern”), even though he does a decent job with the lightweight naivety of his character.

Everything about this movie is riddled with ‘decent.’ “Safe House” is just a forgettable film that plays off a tired concept used in films like “The Bourne Identity.” The first-rate cast may provide some entertainment, but the film still suffers from trembling cinematography and incoherently edited action sequences.

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BONNAROO ● Continued from 5

act, visit every tent and do every activity at Bonnaroo. But that doesn’t mean you can’t try. And hey, you can sleep when you’re dead, right? This year boasts one of the festival’s best lineups, with Radiohead, Phish, Mac Miller, Yelawolf and the Roots all on tap to take the stage over the weekend. Not to mention an impressive array of yoga classes, brewer tents, cinemas and even an environmentally friendly trading post that promotes recycling and sustainability by accepting cans and bottles for Bonnaroo “rewards.” There’s even a silent disco tent, which ... well it’s pretty much exactly how it sounds. In short, there’s no reason not to experience everything the festival has to offer, whether it be jamming out to your favorite band on stage, taking part in a going-green discussion at the solar stage in Planet Roo or rising with the sun on your yoga mat.

Recycle, Recycle, Recycle

Besides a killer collection of current and classic artists, Bonnaroo is also known for being one of, if not the most, eco-friendly festivals to date. Over the years, Bonnaroo has diverted

countless tons of waste into reusable and recyclable materials. ‘Roo has even implemented a “Victory Garden,” which encourages patrons to grow their own sustainable food sources through seed swaps and educational workshops. You’ll leave the festival not only with a head full of memories, but full of educational tools that will stick with you long after the music dies down.

Make Friends — With Everyone

The word “bonnaroo” actually means “a really good time” in French slang. So why not have one while you’re there? The craving to go to Bonnaroo is not one easily satisfied with a single visit, so you can bet the majority of the festival crowd has been making the trek for a while now. This is one of the festival’s best aspects; it has the ability to unite people from very distinct backgrounds for the love of music and art. So make sure to get to know the people around you, because chances are you’ll be seeing those same faces again next year. And why would you want to soak in all the good times alone?

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1 Soft "Yoo-hoo!"
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37 Pecks and feet, e.g.
38 Flamboyant surrealist
39 "Yes!"
40 Its headquarters are in Delft
45 Body work?
46 Do some film editing
47 Griffin's rear

Solutions from 02/16/12

M	A	T	T	E	G	E	E	D	A	B	B	E			
A	V	A	I	L	A	L	T	O	R	A	I	D			
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S	O	T	O		T	Y	R	A		P	O	S	S	E	

48 Old trail terminus
49 Jean de La Fontaine story
50 Attracts
51 Rubbernecked
52 Word on a coin
53 Weird AI
Yankovic song parody
57 "Indeed!"
59 Flabbergast
60 Type of beer orig. brewed in England
61 Ultra-secretive gp.

THE SCENE

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By The Mephram Group 02/17/12

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2					9			7			
7	3					4			1		
9		4			8				5		
				6		9					
		1			5		9			3	
5		7						6	9		
		8			2					5	
				5					8		

Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 02/16/12

1	9	5	3	8	6	4	2	7
7	2	6	4	9	5	1	3	8
8	4	3	1	2	7	6	9	5
3	5	9	7	4	8	2	6	1
2	7	8	9	6	1	3	5	4
4	6	1	2	5	3	7	8	9
5	8	4	6	7	2	9	1	3
9	1	2	5	3	4	8	7	6
6	3	7	8	1	9	5	4	2

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Some people want to outlaw birth control.

THE PROBLEM: **a few of them actually can.**

Every year, certain lawmakers introduce legislation that would prohibit access to contraceptives. Though these officials represent a vocal minority, their policy attempts threaten the wellbeing of millions of everyday South Carolinians.

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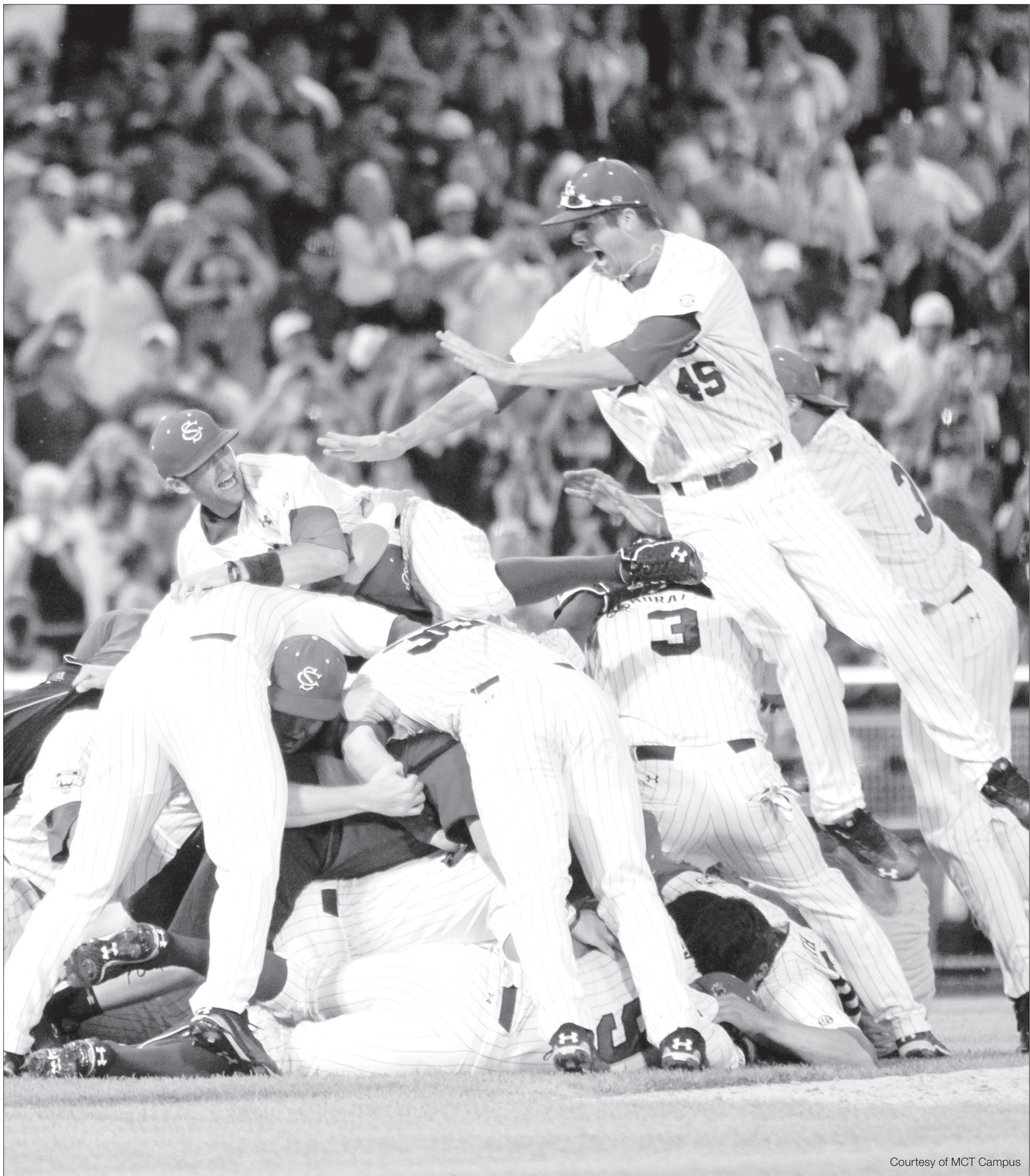
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- 3 BULLPEN
- 6 OUTFIELD
- 6 INFIELD
- 7 SEASON SCHEDULE
- 7 CATCHING



Courtesy of MCT Campus

////////////////////////////////////

GAMECOCKS NOT OVERWHELMED DESPITE EXPECTATIONS

////////////////////////////////////

USC will be the “hunted” team after repeating as national champions

Isabelle Khurshudyan
KHURSHUDYAN@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Before the start of the 2011 season, South Carolina baseball coach Ray Tanner was looking forward to expectations being set high for his squad.

“I know when I came here, I was the hunter,” Tanner said on the first day of the 2011 spring practice. “We were trying to go get some people. And then you have a little success, you become the hunted. I’d rather be the hunted.”

After two national championships, Tanner has his wish. But with the 2012 squad boasting more new faces than old ones, the expectations can seem overwhelming; however, if South Carolina has anything going for it this season, it’s that it doesn’t get overwhelmed easily.

Nevertheless, every Gamecock fan has the same question: Will there be a three-peat?

“It’s something that we hear on a daily basis – if we’ll three-peat,” said senior outfielder Adam Matthews. “We kind of take that in. We like that attention because it’s something that shows that this program has been successful and it’s something that the fans want to continue. I wouldn’t say it puts the pressure on us, but it makes us play up to our ability. We know we’re capable of having a good team and we’re going to go out there and play game by game and see where it takes us.”

The emphasis for the squad has been nearly unanimous in taking it game by game, which is what it did for the past two years. Ranked by

most preseason polls as the No. 2 squad in the nation behind Florida, the Gamecocks will face an opposing team’s best in each game.

“Why wouldn’t you want to have the target on your back?” senior pitcher Matt Price said. “Everybody wants to come after you, but we’re going to go after everybody else.”

Though the Gamecocks will be without most of the infield from the last national championships in second baseman Scott Wingo, third baseman Adrian Morales, catcher Brady Thomas and shortstop Peter Mooney, as well as a chunk of the bullpen, the drive to win championships hasn’t been lost as the new faces are motivated to taste success of their own. More importantly for Tanner, the charisma of the squad hasn’t been lost either.

“We try to have a little bit of fun,” Tanner said. “There’s no doubt about it that in the last four or five years things have changed. Michael Roth and Wingo in the program — they played their rear ends off. But they had fun. Probably early on I was trying to figure out which was going on at which time, but that’s been a great influence on me as well. You try to keep it in perspective, because after all, at the end of the day it is just a game.”

Senior pitcher Michael Roth, who was praised by Tanner for his light-heartedness, said that the evident fun the players are constantly having in their chants and superstitions stems from a passion for baseball.

“I don’t think it’s something that we have to emphasize,” Roth said. “I think it’s just players enjoy what we do out here. We enjoy this game of baseball we play. I don’t think we’d play if we didn’t like it. It’s just something that we like to do so we just come out here and have fun. We don’t

take things overly serious.”

With not taking things too seriously, Tanner never feels the need to sit down and go over goals and objectives, saying that the team focuses on “what we’re doing in the moment and trying to be the best that we can be.” In the past, Tanner said that he might have been guilty of putting too much pressure on the squad, which didn’t put it in the best position to succeed. Now, Tanner said he tries not to negatively affect the team with his emotions; however, the Gamecocks are well aware of what the fans expect, especially when they’ve come out in the thousands for scrimmages.

“I mean, obviously there’s expectations here, which is what we want,” Matthews said. “We want people to want us to win. The crowd that we have, the Gamecock fans that we have is just a blessing. But, we know, we don’t try to look into that too much. We just come out here every day and play how we know how to play. If we do that, then the everything else will take care of itself.”

Just as Tanner is still searching for the balance between fun and pressure to win, there’s also a balance between what’s happened in the past and how that impacts the team’s future.

“I tell the guys that you draw from the past when it benefits you, and other than that, you turn the page,” Tanner said. “I don’t think it’s a big deal. It’s not a pressure situation. It’s perspective, it’s reality and you do the best you can. You hope you get to win at the right time. It’s not complex for me, and I don’t think it is for them. You just try to win the next one.”

Veterans will anchor starting pitching in 2012

Price makes move to starting role after closing in 2011

Isabelle Khurshudyan
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When pitchers Michael Roth and Matt Price decided to return for their senior seasons and spurn the MLB draft, Gamecock fans took a sigh of relief, instantly circling the starting pitching as a strength for the upcoming season.

And while the talent may be back, question marks still remain in the case of Price moving from the bullpen to a starting role.

Though Roth has experience in moving from a role in the bullpen to a starting spot, he didn't have many words of wisdom for Price.

"There's not a cookie cutter approach to it," Roth said. "Price and I are two very different pitchers, and two very different individuals in the way we work out and in the way we approach things. Really, just as a starter, it's just endurance. That's arm endurance, but also leg endurance. I think he'll do fine. I think he'll do great in the transition."

Price has had success in the transition before, as he came into the program as a starting pitcher and became a closer after experiment. South Carolina coach Ray Tanner has Price as a starter on an experimental basis, joking that if it doesn't work out, it was an assistant coach's idea.

"Price has always been a starter, as far as entering this program," Tanner said. "He's a four pitch guy, but as a closer he has never been able to use all of his pitches.



Left-handed ace Michael Roth decided to forgo the MLB draft to pitch his senior season for South Carolina. He and Matt Price anchored the team's pitching last season, and will hope to add a veteran presence to the rotation.

I think he can be an outstanding starter. I hope it doesn't leave us with a void at the end. (Forrest) Koumas is a high emotion guy with good stuff and a former football player, which I like. We'll see how it works. If it is not a situation that works for us, we will go back to the way we were."

For Price, the adjustment has involved bullpen sessions that are twice as long to build

up his arm strength, as well as adjusting to a different pace as a starter. Roth said that, "as a pitcher go you out there and you try to get outs," saying there's not much of a difference in mentality from a starter and a reliever, and Price agreed with that sentiment.

"People say that your adrenaline won't be there," Price said. "I think for me it's going to be there just because

I'm excited to get back on the mound against another team."

And while Roth won't be making any transitions this season as he's to start game one of weekend series, he faces the challenge of maintaining the standard that he's set over the last season.

"I know there's all the things about whether I can live up to what I did last year," Roth said. "You don't try to do that.

You don't go out there and try to have a 1 ERA or whatever. You go out there and try to give your team a quality start every night, and that's what I'm going to try to do."

Tanner said that an asset for Roth is his ability to not sweat the small stuff, which Roth attributes to not taking the game too seriously and the atmosphere that he's surrounded by.

"It just comes from

not getting too wrapped up in it — we're lucky enough to play in front of six- or eight-thousand every game," Roth said. "I guess when you get used to a situation like that you don't get too high on your high's or too low on your low's. You stay pretty even. That's really the key to this game, and life, really."

The duo of Price and Roth is completed by sophomore Colby Holmes, who typically pitched game two of weekend series. Though Holmes may get overlooked by fans in comparison to Roth and Price, he's not underappreciated by Tanner.

"He has been solid and sometimes he does get overshadowed," Tanner said. "His sinker was working, his velocity has gotten better, his change-up is good, his left-hander — I'd like to see him get into that double digit win category. He's got a chance because he's a good one. He had to pitch against a lot of the better teams, so we're looking forward to a good year out of Colby."

With new bats limiting offense, Tanner understands the importance of pitching, as it was the bread and butter for the Gamecocks last season.

"Our game has turned into pitching and defense, when a few years back it might have been about how many runs you could score in college baseball," Tanner said. "We have to prove that we're good enough. I think we're good, but with that being said, there are a lot of good teams."

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Koumas' transition to closer highlights bullpen

Freshman relievers will look to fill role of Taylor

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Going into last season, USC coach Ray Tanner could have never anticipated the role that pitcher John Taylor would play.

With the side-arming Taylor graduated, Tanner knows how good he had it, as Taylor was able to make 50 appearances throughout the season. Tanner also knows that it will take four or five pitchers from the bullpen to replace Taylor. This was complicated more with closer Matt Price converting to a starter, moving Forrest Koumas to the closer role for the time being.

"He missed a lot of time in the fall," Tanner said. "That's the thing that concerns me a little bit with the hamstring injury — he was really set back. It might be the reason he's off to a slow start, but he's another guy that has some stripes on his sleeves. He did very well for us last year and he competed at the highest level, so I think he'll be fine if we give him enough time to get there."

Koumas has some big shoes to fill as he replaces an All-American in Price, who saved 20 of the teams 55 wins last season. Price won seven games with a 1.83 ERA and struck out 75 batters in 59 innings. "I've talked to him once or twice, but he kind of has the same mentality as me," Price said. "He wants to go in and get everyone out. I tell him one key thing is to just be ready. Every situation isn't going to go your way so you have to be able to counter that."



Forrest Koumas started the third game of weekend series last season, but will fill the role of closer in place of senior Matt Price, who will be a starter this season.

Koumas is coming off an impressive freshman season where he went 6-1 with a 2.96 ERA. He walked just 29 batters in 73 innings pitched and also struck out 63. For Koumas to be the closer, Tanner and pitching coach Jerry Myers will have to lean on a young bullpen, but through scrimmages, Tanner's problem has been having too many options and not knowing where they fit.

"It's good to have some choices," Tanner said. "I'm not sure I have all the answers right now. Hopefully, coach

Myers does. There's a lot of guys that I like and as I watch them pitch, I'm just not sure where they're going to fit or what role is best for them."

Right-hander Ethan Carter will be back for the Gamecocks after being absent last season. In 2010 he appeared in 24 games, compiling a 3-0 record with a 5.46 ERA and 30 strike outs in 28 innings.

"It's nice to be back and to feel at home again," Carter said. "I'm just trying to prove coach Tanner and coach Myers right for giving me a

chance to come back. I not only want to do it for myself, but do it for them, because they're putting a lot on the line just giving me a shot to come back."

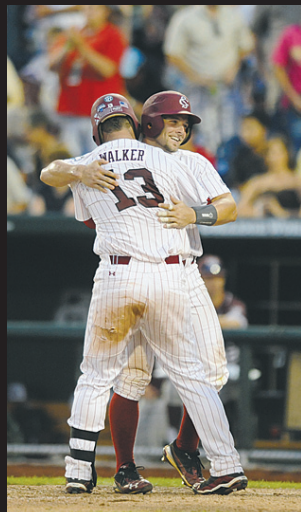
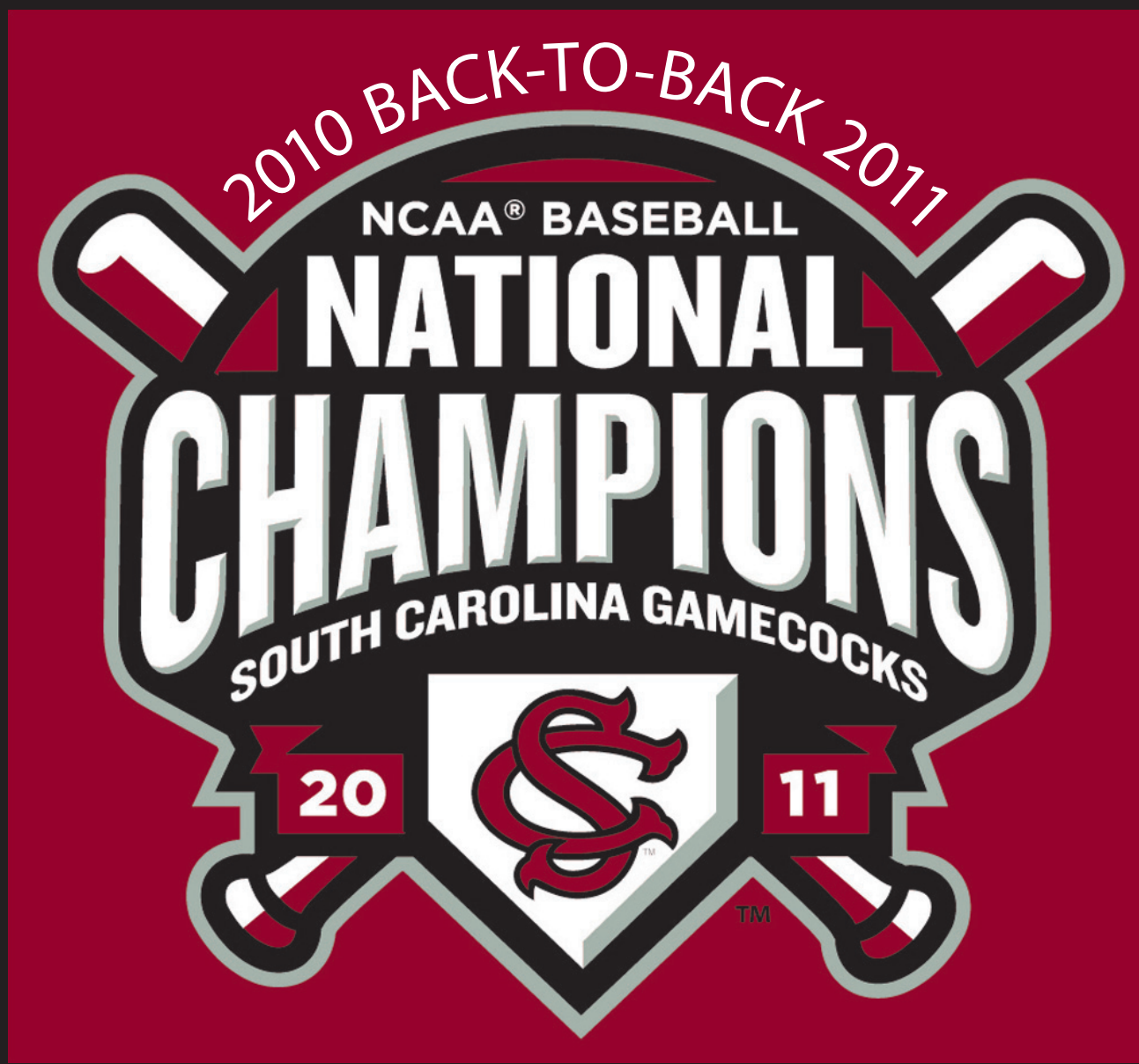
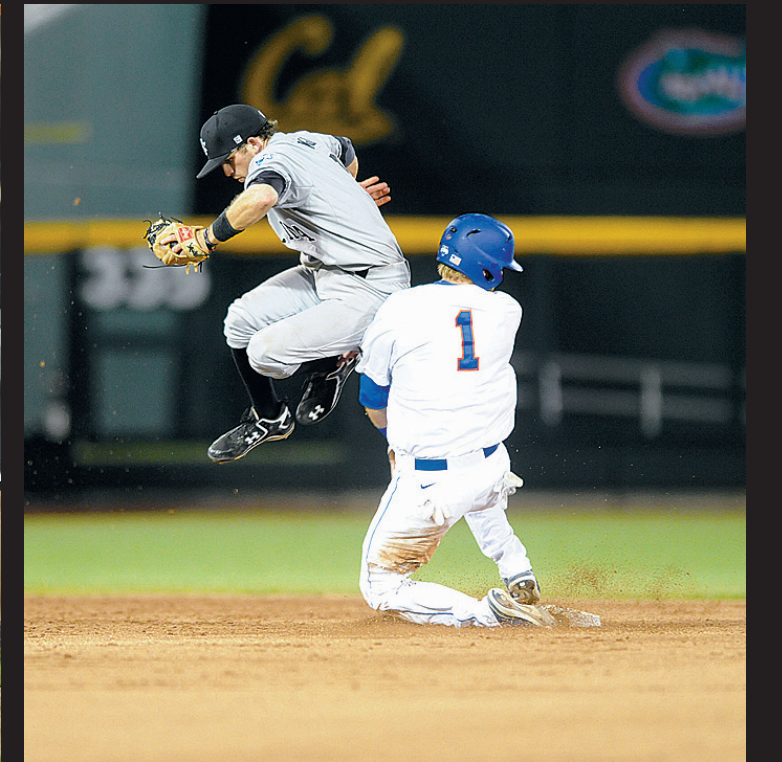
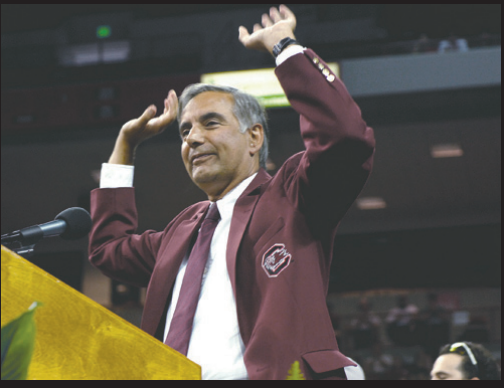
The Gamecocks will also rely on freshmen Evan Beal, Jordan Montgomery and Joel Seddon to make an immediate impact out of the bullpen, but the most encouraging returner will be Nolan Belcher, who missed last season after he had to have Tommy John surgery. Belcher had a strong outing in his first appearance in scrimmages, striking out his first batter, which elicited dramatic cheers from the dugout.

"That was encouraging — no doubt about that one," Tanner said. "I was glad to see Nolan out there. His teammates were hooting him a little bit, but that was good. He felt confident and his stuff was pretty good. That's nice to see for a guy that's been on the shelf for a little bit. He can make a difference for us."

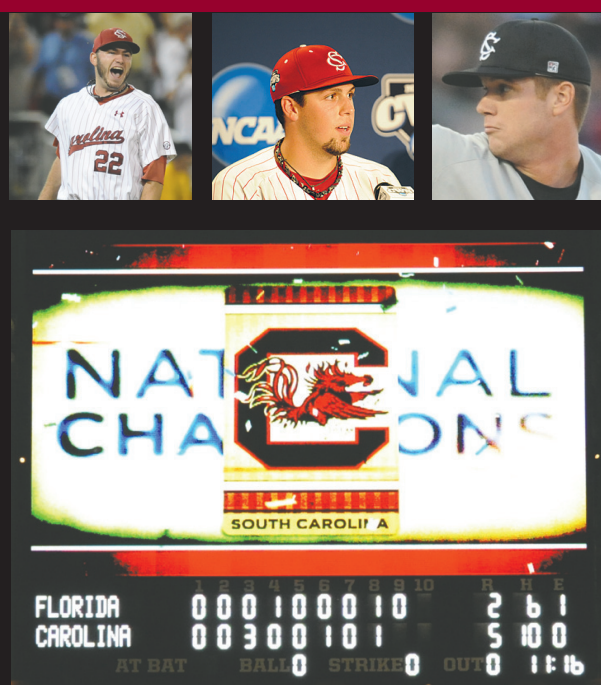
Though the Gamecocks face a new bullpen with the challenge of replacing John Taylor, the team will revert to the motto it has employed for every obstacle it's faced: "win anyway."

"We are definitely going to miss Taylor," Tanner said. "With that being said, we have a couple of veteran guys. (Tyler) Webb made a nice contribution last year. He was out there to help us keep some games going. (Adam) Westmoreland had a pretty good start last year, but didn't do too well in the second half. We need those guys to be strong for us in whatever role they assume."

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Outfield brings most experience to defense

Matthews, Marzilli offer veteran leadership for young squad

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While much of the talk about this year’s team has been about filling voids and integrating new, young players, the outfield will look remarkably familiar. The Gamecocks will rely on veterans like Evan Marzilli and Adam Matthews to steady the team.

“I wouldn’t say we put too much pressure on ourselves,” Matthews said. “Some of the infield guys are junior college guys so they’ve got some experience in the college ranks, but we like to go and make an impact and kind of get a foot ahead and show guys the ropes. We’ll show them how it’s done and they’ll follow right behind us.”

Having been selected as a team captain, Matthews, now a senior, is both humbled by the title and aware of the leadership responsibility he now possesses.

“It’s an honor to be voted as captain for this team by these guys,” Matthews said. “I’m really going to take the time to use my ability and use what I’ve learned in my four years here to kind of teach the guys the ropes here. I’m looking forward to being a part of it and having a good year.”

The Lexington native has been a mainstay of the Gamecocks’ lineup for four years, though he missed the second half of last season with a pulled hamstring.

“First off, I just want to stay healthy,” Matthews said. “That’s something that I haven’t been able to do too well in the past couple years, so I want to stay healthy, contribute and teach these young guys how to play the game the right way ... Just, going about their business in the right way. As long as they play the right way, hopefully we can have a lot of success.”

As a senior, Matthews has taken on the roll of mentoring the younger players on the squad.

“When I was a freshman I learned a lot, just because of the transition you have to make from high school,” Matthews said. “I’ve kind of taken them under my wings and just shown some of the younger guys how to go about their business and how to contribute.”

With the loss of star center fielder Jackie Bradley Jr., the Gamecocks will slide Marzilli over, having mostly played left in the past.

USC coach Ray Tanner also felt good about having his veteran outfielders at the front of the batting order with their combination of experience and speed.

“We’ll probably lead off Marzilli,” Tanner said. “I like where he is right now ... I like him as a table setter. A guy that can run a little bit. I’ll probably go with the older guys at the top right now, give Matthews a shot in the two hole to see if he can move some runners along and get back to his running form.”

As the final 34-man opening day roster was finalized, one name was noticeably absent: senior outfielder Jake Williams. Tanner addressed the matter, but didn’t elaborate on any details.

“He’s not going to play, as has been reported already, for personal issues. That’s really all I can say about it,” Tanner said. “He and I have met numerous times, had conversations now for a few weeks, and we both came to the decision, more so him than me, that it would be the best thing for him right now.”

Williams, who played in left field last season after injuries plagued the outfield, will see his shoes filled by freshman Tanner English. The speedster is highly regarded as a base runner, but is still developing his game at the plate.

Tanner praised both English’s ability and work



Richard Pearce / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Senior outfielder and newly voted 2012 team captain Adam Matthews has been a mainstay in the lineup throughout his career at South Carolina, even though he missed the second half of the 2011 season due to a hamstring injury.

ethic, saying that he can’t justify having his type of talent not on the field.

“I think Tanner is probably the fastest guy [I’ve coached],” Tanner said. “He’s just fun to watch ... I’ve never seen a guy run like that, but as we all know, you can’t steal first. He’s got to show he can get the ball out of the air and bunt a little bit and those kinds of things. He’s worked real hard. He’s worked tirelessly.”

As the Gamecocks embark on their quest for a third consecutive national championship against VMI this weekend, veteran leadership will be more important than ever. With so many new pieces to incorporate, players like Marzilli and Matthews will have to lead the way.

Though the expectations have continued to rise

with the program’s success, players appear remarkably unfazed. Perhaps this is to be expected though — taking things in stride has been a signature trait of the championship teams.

“I mean, obviously there’s expectations here, which is what we want,” Matthews said. “We want people to want us to win. The crowd that we have, the Gamecock fans that we have; it’s just a blessing. But, we know, we don’t try to look in to that too much. We just come out here every day and play how we know how to play. If we do that, then the everything else will take care of itself.”

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The replacements: Young infield brings confidence

3 new starters to fill in for 2011 veterans

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Freshman shortstop Joey Pankake has been given a nickname used by the Gamecock coaches before ever playing an inning for South Carolina — ‘Pancocky.’

And while Gamecock fans have yet to become familiar with Pankake and much of the infield that surrounds him, on Opening Day they’ll be introduced to an noticeably different infield, but one that has the same amount of confidence as the veterans from last season’s national championship squad.

Second baseman Scott Wingo and shortstop Peter Mooney won’t be turning double plays, and Adrian Morales won’t be making diving stops at third base. The Gamecocks will not be able to rely on the clutch hitting provided by the trio that got them a second-straight College World Series title. Together the three players accounted for nearly one-third of the team’s home runs and RBIs last season, and all three were drafted last summer into the MLB. The only remaining player from the infield is All-American first baseman Christian Walker, who

will be anchoring the infield as the lone veteran.

If the Gamecocks are to make it three national championships in a row, they will have to rely on a couple of freshmen and junior college transfers. Joining Pankake will be second baseman Chase Vergason and third baseman L.B. Dantzler, as well as Walker at first.

“It’s going to be a little different,” Walker said. “As far as the chemistry goes, it is still there. It is a great group of guys coming in. (Junior college transfers), freshman — they’re all there mentally. You can’t ask much more out of them.”

For coach Ray Tanner, the new infield has looked good in practice, but that doesn’t necessarily translate to playing in front of a sold out crowd on Opening Day.

“I think sometimes that they’re a little too confident about themselves,” Tanner said. “It’s better to be that way than not. It’s my job to tone that down a little bit and keep it in perspective, but they are a talented group. They’re going to get some opportunities and I believe they’ll be successful because they’re comfortable.”

Dantzler, from Winter Haven, Fla., transferred from the State College of Florida, where he was named to the Florida Collegiate Summer League All-Star team last year. He has shown good

power so far this spring, particularly in the first three scrimmages, where he hit several home runs off a star-studded pitching staff including Michael Roth and Matt Price.

“His preseason has been better than we wanted it to be,” Tanner said. “He’s just had a great run and it is impossible to continue the way he’s swinging the bat. Sometimes guys like that start the season and then they can’t buy a hit, but he’s done a good job. He’s worked hard. He is a much better defender than I anticipated coming into the program.”

Dantzler said that he’s earned the reputation of being an average infielder because he switched from outfield to third base in his senior year of high school. He also played at third base in junior college, but he said that the transition from the outfield took a while. Having veterans at practice like Wingo, Mooney and Jackie Bradley Jr. helped him feel more comfortable at USC.

“That’s been huge,” Dantzler said. “To see them messing around and just how they work in the weight room; it’s not everyday you get see Jackie and Wingo in the weight room. Obviously, they’re doing their own thing, but it’s great to have them around.”

As for Pankake, he hasn’t been as prolific at the plate through scrimmage as Dantzler, but in his mind, it’s just a matter of time.

“The way I look at it, I’ve hit enough right at people that it’s time for them to start falling,” Pankake said.

The biggest shoes to fill are at second base, where Vergason will have the task of replacing Wingo, the 2011 CWS Most Outstanding Player. Naturally, the competition between Vergason and T.J. Costen was one of the tightest for a role that had been occupied by Wingo for four years. Tanner said Vergason will get the nod, but Costen will also see playing time.

“Vergason has had the edge all along and he continues to have the edge,” Tanner said. “He’s done some really good things. He might not be quite as athletic as Costen, but he’s played the game the way you’re supposed to play it. He’s moved the ball around, he makes all the routine plays, he knows how to handle the defense as far as where the outfielders need to be and what they’re doing. So, he’s done a good job. T.J. is going to get an opportunity to play as well.”

There may be a new look for the infield this season, but the team is hoping for the same ending it has enjoyed in the past two — one that ends on the field in Omaha.

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	19	
	24	vs. ELON
	25	
	26	
	28	vs. PC
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	03	
	04	@ CLEMSON
	07	vs. UNC ASHEVILLE
	09	
	10	vs. PRINCETON
	11	
	13	vs. CHARLESTON SOUTHERN
	14	vs. APPALACHIAN ST
	16	
	17	@ KENTUCKY
	18	
	20	@ FURMAN
	21	vs. WOFFORD
	22	
	23	vs. FLORIDA
	24	
	27	@ THE CITADEL
APRIL	30	
	31	@ VANDERBILT
	01	
	04	@ COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
	06	
	07	vs. TENNESSEE
	08	
	10	vs. THE CITADEL
	11	@ FRANCIS MARION
	13	
	14	vs. MISSISSIPPI STATE
	15	
	17	vs. COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
MAY	20	
	21	@ AUBURN
	22	
	26	
	27	vs. ALABAMA
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	02	vs. DAVIDSON
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	05	@ ARKANSAS
	06	
	09	vs. FURMAN
	11	
	12	@ GEORGIA
	13	
	15	vs. USC UPSTATE
	17	
	18	vs. LSU
	19	

Tanner has high expectations for catchers despite inexperience

Greiner, Rosenberg to split time behind the plate in 2012

Isabelle Khurshudyan
IKHURSHUDYAN@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Freshman Grayson Greiner looks odd behind the plate. The 6-5 catcher has always looked out of place; pitcher Colby Holmes described him as a “freak” because he’s such a large target behind the plate. “I’ve talked to some guys who have said I might be too tall to be a catcher, but as long as I can do it, I’m going to keep doing it,” Greiner said. South Carolina coach Ray Tanner isn’t one of the people telling Greiner that he’s too tall to be a catcher. Tanner admits that Greiner, who grew up in northeast Columbia, has been better than he expected. “Many times you bring in a new catcher and the pitchers are the first to critique your new catcher,” Tanner said. “Regardless of what he does, if they’re not comfortable with him, that becomes an issue. He was outstanding in the fall, and I know that I try to be somewhat conservative at times, but Grayson Greiner is a really good player. He had an outstanding fall; he can catch, he can throw, he’s going to be good offensively. His ability to receive has been the key for him. If he’s comfortable, he’s very, very comfortable of becoming a freshman All-American. Is that too much for him right now? I don’t know, but he’s a good one and hopefully he’ll play that way.”

Tanner said pitchers want to have Greiner as a catcher because they feel comfortable with him. Greiner, who’s been catching since seventh grade said that it’s become second nature for him to work with pitchers and manage them. “As a true freshmen coming in, they don’t really know you or how you catch or how you manage them,” Greiner said. “The first thing you want to do is build a relationship with every pitcher in bullpen and in practice. I’m just trying to make them as comfortable as possible because we’ve got great arms in Michael (Roth) and Matt (Price), so you just want to make them as comfortable as possible so they can do their thing and not worry about the catcher.” And though Tanner has lauded Greiner’s poise behind the plate, he still recalls feeling uneasy at first, living so close to Columbia and having family ties to the baseball team. “In the first day of practice, I’m catching in Michael Roth’s bullpen,” Greiner said. “It’s kind of weird watching them on TV with all the success they’ve had, but after the first couple of days, you’re just one of the guys and one of the teammates.” He said that as being a young player and a new addition to the team, it was a matter of “being one of the guys.” In contrast to Greiner is junior Dante Rosenberg, who missed last season with a back injury. Tanner said both will play at catcher, as well as Erik Payne, who will occasionally serve in that role. “He’s a big strong kid,”

Rosenberg said of Greiner. “He’s very mature for his age. He’s a real good player. A real good defensive catcher, and he can hit a little bit. He’s got a promising future. I’m the same way. I’m defensive, I’m gonna hit for average, get the little things on the field, vocal leader, and I’ll bring a lot of energy to the team.” Though Rosenberg was on the national championship squad last season, sitting out for the whole 2011 season is motivating him going into this season. “I’m happy, and I was a part of it, but it was difficult to sit back and watch,” Rosenberg said. Tanner said that he never feels comfortable starting freshmen at key positions, but catcher is one role that he hasn’t been as concerned about because of how comfortable the pitchers have been with both Greiner and Rosenberg. For Holmes, his favorite part about having Greiner catching is the fact that he is such a large target. With so much hype going into this season Greiner and Rosenberg have a large target on their backs in replacing the senior duo of Robert Beary and Brady Thomas. “Last Fall, Dante caught me a lot,” Holmes said. “Having him and Greiner there and knowing that I’ve got somebody who can back me up, it’s a really good feeling going into this year.”

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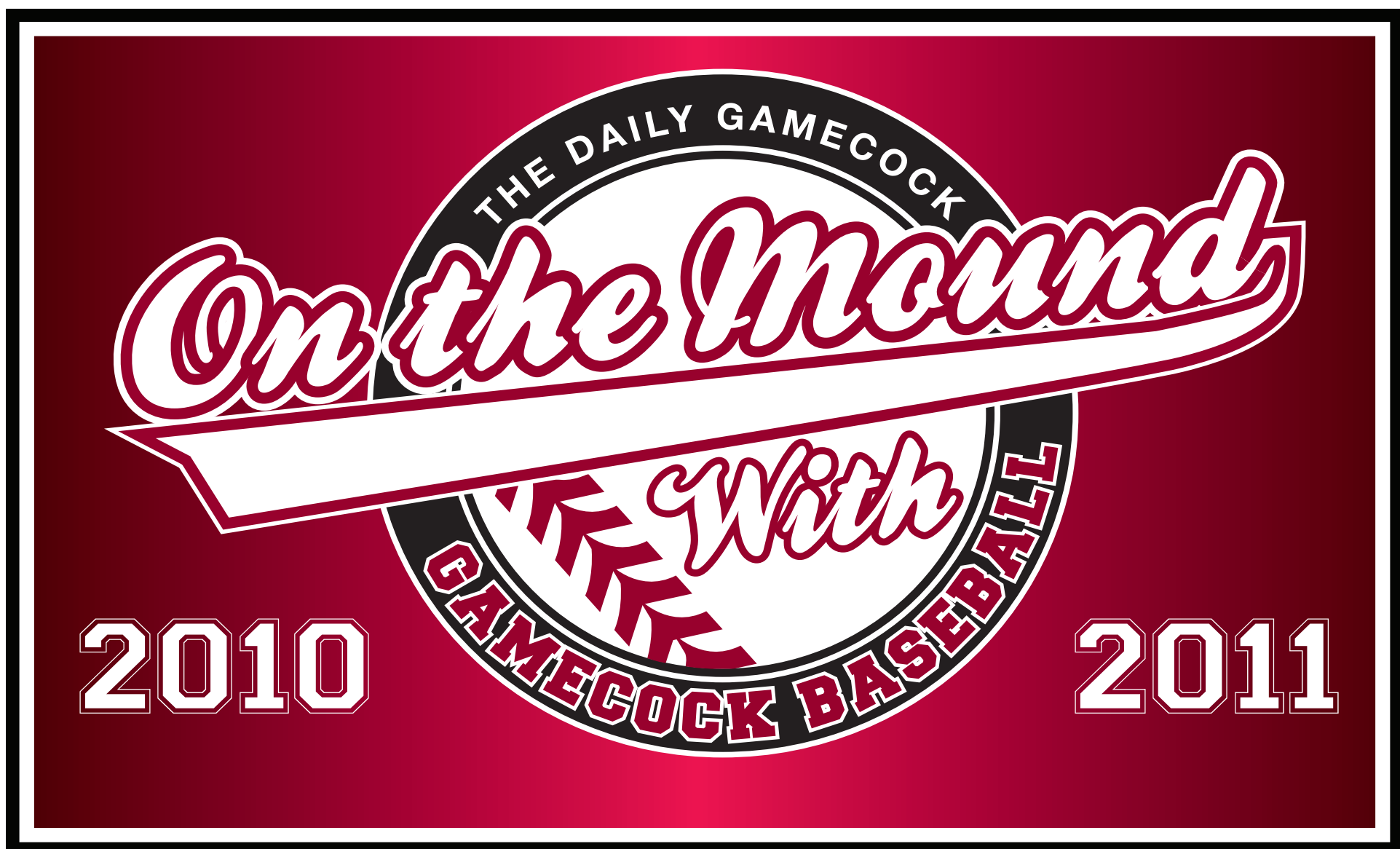
USC freshman catcher Grayson Greiner has high expectations from coach Ray Tanner, who thinks he could be freshman All-American. He will split time with junior Dante Rosenberg throughout the season.



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